

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:
an image pickup device for capturing an image of a subject;
an exposure determining element for determining exposure parameters in image capturing;
a selector for selecting a type of metering process from among a plurality of metering processes for determining said exposure parameters; and
a corrector for correcting said image captured under the exposure parameters determined by said exposure determining element through a correcting process according to the type of said metering process selected by said selector,
wherein the image is divided into a plurality of specific areas;
the selected metering processes determines the exposure parameters in at least one of the specific areas; and
the corrector ~~individually~~ corrects at least one of the specific areas of the image ~~according to~~ through the correcting process set based upon the determined exposure parameters of the specific areas.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The digital camera according to claim 1, wherein said corrector is operable to correct said image on the basis of either a result of said metering process or information lead from said result of said metering process, when said metering process selected for capturing said image is a second metering type in which a plurality of areas within the image capturing range are metered.
4. (Original) The digital camera according to claim 3, wherein said exposure determining element determines a relation between a distribution of brightness in said image and said subject on the basis of said result of said metering process to make scene determination, and said

corrector corrects said image on the basis of a result of said scene determination.

5. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:

an image pickup device for capturing an image of a subject;

an exposure determining element for determining exposure parameters in image capturing;

a meter for performing metering process in determination of said exposure parameters in which brightness in a specific area is weighted within an image capturing range; and

a corrector for correcting said image captured under the exposure parameters determined by said exposure determining element, on the basis of values of pixels corresponding to said specific area;

wherein said corrector corrects said image to optimize a hue or contrast in the specific area.

6. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:

an image pickup device for capturing an image of a subject;

an exposure determining element for determining exposure parameters in image capturing;

a meter for performing a metering process in determination of said exposure parameters, including brightness, in which a plurality of areas in an image capturing range are metered;

a divider for ~~diving~~ dividing said image into a plurality of divided areas on the basis of positions of said plurality of areas; and

a corrector for individually correcting each of said plurality of divided areas of the image captured under the exposure parameters determined by said exposure determining element, ~~individually~~ according to a distribution of brightness in the image in the image capturing range, as determined by the metering process, or information obtained based upon the distribution of brightness.

7-11. (Canceled)